



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0149

3627
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George Harry HOFFMAN et al.
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND
COMPUTER PROGRAM
PRODUCT FOR SUPPLY CHAIN
INVENTORY MANAGEMENT
Appl. No.: 09/816,536
Filing Date: 03/23/2001
Examiner: Florian M. Zeender
Art Unit: 3627

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(d), after the mailing date of the final action under 37 CFR §1.113. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(d), a statement and fee are required.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or

even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to
Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 3/29/04

By 

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: December 16, 2003

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/816,536
Filing Date	03/23/2001
First Named Inventor	George Harry HOFFMAN
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Florian M. Zeender
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0149

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	C1	6,061,691	B1	Fox	05-09-2000	
	C2	6,266,652	B1	Godin et al.	07-24-2001	
	C3	6,486,899	B1	Bush Jr.	11-26-2002	
	C4	6,564,226	B1	Dickson et al.	05-13-2003	
	C5	6,622,056	B1	Lindell	09-16-2003	
	C6	6,609,101	B1	Landvater	08-19-2003	
	C7	2002/0016760	A1	Sanjesh	20-07-2002	
	C8	2002/0069096	A1	Lindoefer et al.	06-06-2002	
	C9	2002/0169657	A1	Singh et al.	11-14-2002	
	C10	2002/0169658	A1	Adler et al.	11-14-2002	
	C11	2002/0194057	A1	Lidow	12-19-2002	
	C12	2002/0198759	A1	Gilday et al.	12-26-2002	
	C13	2003/0212610	A1	Duffy et al.	11-13-2003	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	C14	Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 422-519	
	C15	Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 592-601	
	C16	PR Newswire: Andersen Consulting Announce Strategic Alliance, Looksmart, September 6, 2000	
	C17	Stephanie Stahl, "A Whopping Inventory Task - Burger King's purchasing agency lures suppliers online to streamline its huge distribution system", INFORMATIONWEEK, 1994	
	C18	John Rendleman, "Burger King Orders AT&T Mail Service", CommunicationsWeek, 1994.	

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.